

News from EAA

For Immediate Release



EAA and Virgin Galactic plan four flight showcases of space launch vehicle “Eve” at AirVenture '09

Founder Sir Richard Branson will take his first-ever flight aboard the Virgin Galactic mothership

EAA AVIATION CENTER, OSHKOSH, WI — July 15, 2009

When Virgin Galactic Mothership “Eve” arrives and executes several low passes on July 27 to kick off the EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2009 weeklong series of showcase flights and air shows, she’ll be performing the first of four scheduled flight demonstrations. The Monday arrival will be Virgin Mothership (VMS) Eve’s first appearance before a general-public audience.

The next day, VMS Eve will take to the air again for a flight demonstration that will mark another significant first: Sir Richard Branson, founder of the Virgin group of more than 350 companies, will participate as a crew member and, for the first time, fly aboard an aerospace vehicle developed for his progressing Virgin Galactic space-tourism enterprise.

Additional flight demonstrations on Thursday, July 30, and before departing on Saturday, August 1, will round out a visit that will also include up-close viewing on the AeroShell Square ramp, and presentations from Virgin Galactic officials and Branson. Famed aeronautical engineer and visionary Burt Rutan and others from Scaled Composites, Virgin Galactic’s partner in Mojave, Calif., will also participate.

[To learn more, attend the online news conference for news-media reporters:](#)

Who

- Will Whitehorn, Virgin Galactic president
- Doug Shane, Scaled Composites president
- Tom Poberezny, EAA president and AirVenture chairman

When

- Monday, July 20, 2009
- **NOTE time zone info:** 10 a.m. PDT (Mojave), 12 noon CDT (Oshkosh), 6 p.m. BST (London)

What

Topics to be discussed will include:

- operational considerations and “firsts” in bringing “Eve” to Oshkosh;
- planned discussions and presentations at Oshkosh;
- future of the Virgin Galactic space-tourism program;
- VMS Eve’s science and research applications, including satellite launch capability.

How

Registering for, and participating in, the online WebEx conference is easy. To register, simply click on this link:

<https://eaa.webex.com/eaa/j.php?ED=114530612&RG=1&UID=1044741107&RT=MiM3>

After you’ve registered, you will receive an e-mail with instructions on how to participate. With your desk phone and your Internet-connected computer, you’ll be able to listen to the conference, view presentation materials, and ask questions.

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, renowned as “The World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration,” is EAA’s annual membership convention, fly-in, and air show. The 2009 event begins Monday, July 27 and concludes Sunday, August 2. Additional EAA AirVenture Oshkosh information, including advance ticket purchase, is available online at www.airventure.org. EAA members receive lowest prices on admission. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 1-800-JOIN EAA (1-800-564-6322) or visit www.eaa.org.



Highlights of Virgin Galactic at AirVenture 2009

- VMS Eve arrives and performs flight demo to kick off opening-day air show: 2:30 p.m. CDT, Mon. 7/27.
- Virgin Galactic presentation on AeroShell Square concert stage: 5:30 p.m., Mon. 7/27.
- Virgin Galactic and Scaled Composites forum: 10 a.m., Tues. 7/28.
- VG/Scaled preflight news conference on AeroShell Square: 12:45 p.m., Tues. 7/28.
- VMS Eve demo flight with Sir Richard Branson as onboard crewmember: 2:15 p.m., Tues. 7/28.
- VG/Scaled postflight statements on AeroShell Square: 2:35 p.m., Tues. 7/28.
- VMS Eve flight demo: 2:30 p.m. Thurs. 7/30.
- VMS Eve low passes and departure: 10:00 a.m. Sat. 8/1.

For more information, contact:
David Berkley, EAA Media Relations
920-426-6295 • dberkley@eaa.org